

HONORING COURT APPOINTED
SPECIAL ADVOCATES OF SANTA
CRUZ COUNTY

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 8, 2021

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the indispensable advocacy of a Central Coast organization that gives a voice to some of our most vulnerable community members. Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Santa Cruz County improves the lives of children in the foster care system by pairing them with trained volunteers from the community who advocate for them and stand by their side as stable adults they can count on as they go through the chaos of the foster care system.

CASA and its devoted staff and team of volunteers are guided by the needs of children in need of someone to stand by them and ensure they are not alone as they face instability, fear, and unfamiliar surroundings. Since 1994, the organization has continued to be the only local nonprofit of its kind that recruits, trains, and supports community volunteers to serve as court appointed advocates for abused and neglected foster children throughout Santa Cruz County. CASA of Santa Cruz County exists so that abused and neglected children in protective care have the chance to become successful adults.

Thanks to the devoted advocates and the Santa Cruz CASA team, these children have a voice as they navigate a tumultuous system. CASA provides these children the compassion, clarity, and care they so desperately need. And it is because of CASA that these children and youth have the tools they need to go on to successful adulthoods.

Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize this treasured community organization that has protected and advocated for countless foster children and youth. I thank all of those who have given their time and resources to help these children feel safe and succeed. I extend my gratitude to CASA Santa Cruz's Board of Directors, Board President Andrea Willy, Executive Director Lynne Petrovic, and its devoted network of advocates.

ISMAEL LUEVANOS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 8, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Ismael Luevanos for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Ismael Luevanos is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Ismael Luevanos is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Ismael Luevanos for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE PENNSYLVANIA
COLLEGE OF EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 8, 2021

Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Pennsylvania College of Emergency Physicians on its 50th Anniversary. The Pennsylvania College of Emergency Physicians was founded in 1971 by six physicians and held its first meeting on November 27, 1971 in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Today, they represent over 1,900 emergency medicine physicians who treat over 6,000,000 patients each year in emergency departments across the Commonwealth.

These dedicated Pennsylvania emergency physicians provide medical care 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year to all Pennsylvanians with any condition regardless of socioeconomic status, and serve as the healthcare safety net in the Commonwealth. These emergency physicians are also critical to the ability of the Commonwealth to respond to disasters and mass casualty events, are vital frontline healthcare workers in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, and the medical care they provide saves the lives of many patients in the Commonwealth every day.

Pennsylvania emergency physicians are leaders in defining, evaluating, and improving quality emergency care, focusing on individual patients while advocating for and advancing the public health and the wellness of society as a whole. The Pennsylvania College of Emergency Physicians is committed to providing ongoing continuing education for emergency physicians in the Commonwealth and serves as the primary voice of Pennsylvania emergency physicians and patients seeking emergency care in the health care system and halls of government.

In short, Pennsylvania emergency physicians have contributed greatly to the health and wellbeing of the entire population of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

For these reasons, I stand here today to congratulate the Pennsylvania College of Emergency Physicians on its 50th Anniversary; recognize the accomplishments and contributions Pennsylvania emergency physicians have made to advance health care in the Commonwealth; express my support for Pennsylvania emergency physicians in their ongoing fight against the COVID-19 pandemic; and reaffirm the value of emergency medicine and the vital role that Pennsylvania emergency physicians serve in ensuring the health and well-being of all Pennsylvanians.

IN RECOGNITION OF JUNIATA
BREWING COMPANY

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 8, 2021

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Juniata Brewing Company on winning the New Construction Award, which showcases excellence in development, from the Huntingdon County Chamber of Commerce.

The Juniata Brewing Company opened its doors in March 2020 and faced numerous challenges amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Overcoming these obstacles, the Juniata Brewing Company team adapted their business to provide curbside growler pick up and offered delivery services within the community.

The Juniata Brewing Company seeks to enrich the community and expand our region's craft brewing industry. Small businesses such as the Juniata Brewing Company are a staple of our community. Congratulations to the team for persevering through unprecedented challenges, and I wish them continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE
AND LEGACY OF ALVIN SYKES

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 8, 2021

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, it is with sorrow and a heavy heart that I rise today to commemorate the life and legacy of the late Alvin Sykes, who passed away on March 19th. Alvin was a monumental man—one who dedicated his life to seeking truth and justice for those who were long denied it because of the systemic injustice that was so prevalent in the civil rights era. While he was only on this Earth for sixty-four years, the reverberations of his actions will extend for much longer.

Born in 1956, Alvin came of age during the height of the civil rights movement. Following the eighth grade, Alvin left formal education and continued his learning in the libraries of Kansas City, Missouri. As a young man, he was deeply moved by the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., solidifying his lifelong commitment to carrying on the banner of civil rights. While it was the death of Dr. King that galvanized Alvin, it was a personal tragedy that entrenched his methodology. In 1980, Steve Harvey, a young KC jazz musician and close friend of Alvin, was murdered. Despite the original trial ending in an acquittal, Alvin dug deep through legal resources and collected enough information to reopen the case. Establishing the Steve Harvey Justice Campaign, Sykes collected thousands of signatures in an effort to demonstrate the public's desire to seek justice. In the end, his hard work paid off. Because of his efforts, the man responsible for Mr. Harvey's murder was found guilty of his crime and sentenced to life in prison. With his first case behind him, Alvin turned his eyes to issues of nationwide injustice. Renaming the Steve Harvey Justice Campaign, the Justice Campaign of America, Alvin and his fellow activists sought to right the wrongs of injustice anywhere that they could find it.

While his work on Mr. Harvey's case was notable in its own right, Alvin found national recognition for the integral role he played in the development and passage of the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crime Act. Identifying the legal barriers stymying the prosecution of civil rights era cold cases, he pushed for the creation of a bill that would enable the federal government to reopen and pursue racially motivated, pre-1969 cold cases. As a direct result of the bill's passage, over one hundred cases were reopened and investigated under the U.S. Department of Justice's Cold Case Initiative. Consequent to his actions and passion for justice, over a hundred families across the country have been able to gain some sense of closure where none had been before.

Alvin's work to rectify the shortcomings of the civil rights era justice system did not stop with the passage of the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crime Act. In 2010, Alvin was able to reopen the murder case of Leon Jordan, a former Kansas City policeman and cofounder of the city's local, Black political organization known as Freedom, Inc. Equipped with his intimate understanding of the legal system and with newfound evidence, he sought to bring forth justice for Mr. Jordan. While his investigation and efforts into the case did not lead to a prosecution, Alvin did not consider this a failed effort. As he once stated, "My brand is that I go for the truth and, if possible, justice. That formula hasn't failed me yet. Find the truth. After that, justice may be possible."

Alvin's lifelong commitment to finding the truth and seeking justice and closure for those whom it had been denied is one that deserves to be memorialized in the annals of history. Without his guiding hand, historic legislation within the state of Missouri and in the halls of Congress may not have been brought into reality. Madam Speaker, please join me in celebrating and honoring the life and accomplishments of Alvin Sykes, a man that was truly larger than life. Let his legacy live on in the closure and peace that his work may still bring to the families that have yet to find answers.

**CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY
MONTH AND HONORING
DANIELLA LEVINE CAVA**

HON. STEPHANIE N. MURPHY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 8, 2021

Mrs. MURPHY of Florida. Madam Speaker, although Women's History Month recently concluded, it is never too late to honor Florida women who have made outstanding contributions to their community and to our country.

Today I rise to honor Daniella Levine Cava. Daniella, who is originally from New York City, moved to Miami in 1980 after graduating from Yale University and Columbia Law School. She spent a decade working for the Legal Services of Greater Miami and for the Guardian Ad Litem program, which gives a voice to young children in our legal system. In 1996, Daniella founded the innovative Catalyst Miami. Since its inception, Catalyst has created paths to economic prosperity for approximately 5,000 people each year.

In 2014, Daniella was elected to the Miami-Dade County Commission, and she was re-elected in 2018. In November 2020, Daniella made history when she was elected as Miami-Dade County's first-ever woman Mayor. As Mayor, she has been a fierce advocate for her three million constituents—advocating for young children, increased affordable housing, opportunities for small businesses, and improved public transportation.

As an attorney, as an activist, and now as an elected official, Daniella Levine Cava has never stopped fighting for South Florida families.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and celebrating Mayor Daniella Levine Cava.

CELEBRATING THE JONES FAMILY

HON. RALPH NORMAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 8, 2021

Mr. NORMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize two of Rock Hill's greatest former athletes and loving parents, Tim and Jackie Jones. It has been my privilege to learn of the successes of Tim and Jackie and their talented daughters, Jada and Layla.

Tim was a standout Bearcat at Rock Hill High who played in the 1989 Shrine Bowl before dominating in football as a collegiate level linebacker. He was a two-time All-ACC starter who led the Clemson Tigers in tackles for three consecutive seasons. Only one player has accomplished that feat since. Nicknamed "The Hitman" for his punishing tackles in high school, Tim went on to accumulate 338 tackles in college. Among a plethora of distinguished titles and awards, he was a sophomore All-American in 1992, an Honorable Mention All-American in both 1993 and 1994, and the team's Most Valuable Player in 1994. Tim pursued a banking career in Charlotte before returning to Rock Hill High as an assistant football coach. He will always be remembered as Clemson's best No. 56.

Before running cross country at the University of South Carolina, Jackie set records in

track and field at Rock Hill High. She shared pointers with her daughter, Jada, who broke those records as a freshman in 2019. The elite athlete has also persevered through extreme hardship. Jackie was previously diagnosed with both stomach cancer and breast cancer. Despite undergoing a bilateral mastectomy, her breast cancer returned shortly after. She remains optimistic and continues to fight this ongoing battle with persistence and grace. Currently, Jackie serves her community as principal of Mt. Holly Elementary School. She is a faithful and inspirational leader to all.

Tim and Jackie are blessed to have raised two high-achieving Bearcats of their own. An unmatched high school basketball star, "eternal optimist" Jada has the speed, build, and athleticism to carry her teammates through any season. As a varsity guard, she led her basketball team through the playoffs and plans to rejoin the soccer and track teams this spring, as well. Her little sister Layla, who plays on the Junior Varsity team, seeks advice from Jada and hopes to soon follow in her footsteps.

Madam Speaker, please join me in celebrating the Jones family's athletic accomplishments. They are living legends, and I am proud to acknowledge their substantial contributions to our community.

FERNANDO BEGAY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 8, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Fernando Begay for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Fernando Begay is a student at Jefferson Jr./Sr. H.S. and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Fernando Begay is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Fernando Begay for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.